

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: Chair Edward Buttrey, on February 3, 2017 at 8:00 AM, in Room 422
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Edward Buttrey, Chair (R)
Sen. Dee Brown, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Pat Connell (R)
Sen. Tom Facey (D)
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
Sen. Daniel R. Salomon (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)
Sen. Frank Smith (D)
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Linda Keim, Committee Secretary
Jameson Walker, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 165, 1/27/2017; HB 172, 1/27/2017

Executive Action: Do Concur: HB 80, HB 166; Do Pass: SB 165; Do Pass As
Amended: SB 44, SB 120; Tabled: SB 167

00:00:01 Chair Buttrey

HEARING ON HB 172

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:40 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R), HD 17, opened the hearing on HB 172. Generally revise telephone cooperative laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:03:37 Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA)

00:07:16 E. J. Redding, Triangle Telephone Cooperative

00:08:14 David Gibson, CEO, Three Rivers Telephone Cooperative (TRTC)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:17:29 Jay Preston, president and principal owner, Ronan Telephone Company (RTC); member, Blackfoot Telecommunications Group

[EXHIBIT\(bus25a01\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:22:57 Sen. Brown
00:23:53 Mr. Preston, RTC
00:24:21 Sen. Brown
00:25:45 Rep. Fitzgerald
00:25:51 Sen. Facey
00:26:33 Mr. Gibson, TRTC
00:28:05 Sen. Connell
00:31:45 Mr. Feiss, MTA
00:32:18 Sen. Salomon
00:36:06 Mr. Preston
00:36:41 Sen. Facey
00:37:11 Mr. Preston
00:39:21 Sen. Brown
00:41:39 Mr. Preston

Closing by Sponsor:

00:41:51 Rep. Fitzgerald

00:42:53 Chair Buttrey

HEARING ON SB 165

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:44:05 Sen. Daniel Salomon (R), SD 47, opened the hearing on SB 165. Revise consumer loan act to exempt certain licensees.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:44:49 Melanie Hall, commissioner, Banking and Financial Division, Department of Administration (DOA)

00:46:56 Claudia Clifford, American Association of Retired Persons-Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:48:26 Sen. Brown

Closing by Sponsor:

00:48:40 Sen. Salomon

00:48:51 Chair Buttrey

00:49:43 Sen. Connell

00:49:45 Sen. Brown

00:49:59 Brief Recess

01:15:51 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 167

01:15:54 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **SB 167 BE TABLED.**
EXHIBIT(bus25a02)

Discussion:

01:16:08 Chair Buttrey

01:16:29 Sen. Facey

01:16:38 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 80

01:16:53 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **HB 80 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:17:05 Chair Buttrey

01:17:27 Sen. Connell

01:17:58 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Salomon will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 166

01:18:07 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **HB 166 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:18:26 Chair Buttrey

01:18:29 Sen. Connell

01:19:08 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Connell will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 44

01:19:22 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **SB 44 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:19:40 Sen. Vance

01:19:54 **Motion:** Sen. Fitzpatrick moved that **SB 44 BE AMENDED.**

[**EXHIBIT**](#)(bus25a03)

Discussion:

01:21:00 Sen. Vance

01:21:18 Sen. Facey

01:21:32 Sen. Fitzpatrick

01:21:58 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:22:11 **Motion:** Sen. Vance moved that **SB 44 BE AMENDED.**

[**EXHIBIT**](#)(bus25a04)

Discussion:

01:22:36 Jamison Walker, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:23:06 Sen. Vance

01:23:10 Mr. Walker, LSD

01:23:51 Sen. Connell

01:23:53 Chair Buttrey

01:24:06 Mr. Walker

01:28:05 Sen. Vance

01:28:35 Sen. Facey

01:29:04 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:29:24 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **SB 44 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:29:35 Chair Buttrey

01:29:36 Sen. Facey

01:31:42 Chair Buttrey

01:32:29 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 120

01:32:43 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **SB 120 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:33:23 Chair Buttrey

01:33:30 Mr. Walker

01:33:49 **Motion:** Sen. Fitzpatrick moved that **SB 120 BE AMENDED.**

EXHIBIT(bus25a05)

Discussion:

01:34:06 Chair Buttrey

01:34:08 Sen. Fitzpatrick

01:37:35 Sen. Facey

01:37:56 Mr. Walker

01:38:31 **Substitute Motion:** Sen. Facey made a substitute motion that **SB 120 BE AMENDED CONCEPTUALLY.**

Discussion:

01:40:02 Sen. Facey

01:40:19 Sen. Fitzpatrick

01:40:53 Sen. Connell

01:41:57 Sen. Brown

01:42:34 Sen. Facey

01:43:29 Chair Buttrey

01:44:58 **Vote:** Substitute Motion failed 4-6 by roll call vote with Sen. Brown, Sen. Facey, Sen. Salomon and Sen. Vance voting aye.

01:46:21 Chair Buttrey

01:46:24 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Sen. Fitzpatrick moved that **SB 120 BE AMENDED CONCEPTUALLY.** Substitute Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:46:51 Chair Buttrey

01:47:17 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **SB 120 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**
Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

01:47:39 Sen. Brown

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 165

01:48:33 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **SB 165 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:48:41 Chair Buttrey

01:48:48 Sen. Salomon

01:48:54 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Committee Business:

01:49:30 Chair Buttrey

01:50:05 Sen. Vance

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:48 AM

Linda Keim, Secretary

lk

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([bus25aad.pdf](#))